



Police Department City of Wisconsin Rapids

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ERMAN BLEVINS, CHIEF
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Date: 09 March 2020

To: Mayor Zach Vruwink
Wisconsin Rapids Police and Fire Commission
Wisconsin Rapids Common Council

From: Erman Blevins, Chief of Police

RE: Report on the Police Department activity for February 2020

Activities of the Chief of Police

- Attended various repeating meetings throughout the month of February including Wood County Law Enforcement Executives, Department Staff meeting, City Department Head staff meeting, Police and Fire Commission, Police Records staff meeting, Crisis Intervention.
- Continued with collaborative efforts with Fire and Public Works departments to update the Major Incident Guide.
- Invited to be a judge for the 2020 Super Snow Sculpture fundraiser for the Humane Society.
- Invited to be a judge for the Special Olympics Polar Plunge in February.
- Attended Board meetings at Kiwanis Club, and Family Center.
- Attended the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police training conference. WRPD's updated squad graphics and equipment was highlighted by having our newest squad on display at the conference.
- Participated in several fundraising events throughout the month of February.
- Participated in the Family Center fundraiser "Men in the Kitchen" for the third year in a row.

Notable activities of the Police Department for February 2020

- WRPD Officers are continuing to provide office hours at the Family Center every other Monday to continue the working relationship between WRPD and the Family Center.
- Officer Mitchell Neaubauer reported for his first day on WRPD Feb 24th.

- Officer Jazdzewski is continuing his monthly Heart of Wisconsin Community Leadership training program.
- WRPD continues the fundraiser to add a second K9 to the department. The fundraiser is sponsored by Wisconsin Rapids Kiwanis Club. Total K9 fundraising has reached approximately two thirds of the needed **\$65,000**.
- Lieutenant Potocki attended the Wisconsin Active Threat Integrated Response Conference.
- Officer Brochman completed phase I of his FTO training on Feb. 20th.

Rapid Response

The Wisconsin Rapids Police Department is committed to being as fully prepared for active shooting incidents as possible. WRPD continues to train and equip officers with the needed tools to respond to such an incident. Using additional funds granted to the PD in the 2020 budget, WRPD has obtained:

- Additional Ballistic Shields for squads.
- Two backpack breaching kits. Officers will bring these tools into a building in case a fortified door is encountered.
- Rapid Response Go Bags containing additional pistol/rifle magazines, 5 tourniquets, gunshot treatment kits, door wedges, and other supplies.

Year to date statistics and previous year comparison:

WRPD responded to **1670** incidents and calls for service in February 2020.

February 2019: **1768**.

Total incidents and calls for service to date in 2020: **3419**

Total for 2019: **3465**.

For month of February 2020:

- OWI- 9 2019- 5
- Traffic Crash Investigations: **39** 2019: **69**

Chronic Nuisance/Blighted Property enforcement activity:

These citations are from a list of ordinances provided to WRPD by code enforcement. Typical citations are for such violations as:

Vehicle parked on grass, Inoperable/Junk car, junk and refuse in yard.

Citations in February 2020: **29**

Restricted Parking citations: **268**

Chronic Nuisance Program letters

4 properties were added in February; properties being added following 3 enforcement actions.

Detectives/Interdiction Overtime operations:

Drug Interdiction

- February 13th, 2020 3:30pm-8:30pm. Utilizing additional overtime funds granted for Special Operations an interdiction was conducted with the following results:

Vehicles Stopped	23
Warnings	21
Citations	14
Criminal Traffic	3
OWI-drug related	1
Criminal Drug Arrests	4
Warrant Arrests	3
Drug Paraphernalia	1
K9 Sniffs	8
Vehicles Searched	5
Other Arrests	1
List Drugs seized:	
Methamphetamine	8.91g
THC	16g
Oxycodone	2 pills

Due to WRPD success in drug interdictions, Plover PD has announced it will soon begin doing similar interdictions. Plover and Portage County interdictions will positively affect drug enforcement activity in Wisconsin Rapids. Due to the close proximity, Wisconsin Rapids and Plover residents often have the same drug dealers, as well as drug users who commit crimes in both communities.

Narcotics Detectives

- Residential Narcotics Sales Search Warrant. Executed a drug related search warrant in 800 block of Wylie St. Both occupants of residence were arrested for probation violations and criminal drug charges (Methamphetamine).
- A Nekoosa overdose death case was formally charged and a prelim was completed. WRPD assisted DCI, and Nekoosa PD with the overdose investigation. Two defendants were charged for 1st Degree Reckless Homicide. Due to prior investigation by WRPD, added charges for Conspiracy- Possession W/ Intent of Heroin (over 50 grams).

Wisconsin Rapids Police Officers and Detectives made **36 arrests** for Controlled Substance offenses in February 2020. These charges include:

- Manufacture/Delivery of Heroin
- Possession with intent to deliver Narcotics
- Possession of Methamphetamine

Notable investigations and arrests

Detectives

- Child Sexual Assault- Detectives arrested a suspect for repeated sexual assault of a child/incest. Suspect/Family recently moved to Wisconsin Rapids from a different state.

Patrol:

- Officer Burger was on patrol and noticed a vehicle driven by an individual that was registered to an individual who had been deceased for over two years. Officer Burger made a traffic stop on this vehicle and identified the driver as an individual who has multiple contacts with law enforcement for drug related incidents. Officer Burger asked for her permission to search her person. She stated he could. A suspected bindle of heroin fell out of her clothing and the suspect dived for the suspected heroin and placed it in her mouth, then spit it into the snow bank. Officer Burger located the suspected drugs and placed the subject under arrest for a probation hold. At the Wood County jail, a second bindle of suspected illegal drugs was located on the suspect. One bindle of suspected drugs tested positive for fentanyl and weighed .17 grams.
- WRPD received a call of a subject who held knife to his elderly mother's throat. Upon contact at the residence subject refused to let Officers inside. Subject did have mother come to window where she did mention to Officers that she was not okay. Officers attempted forced entry to front door however, it was very solid and secured. Officers made secondary forced entry through garage service door and interior garage service door to kitchen. Subject, armed the with knife, ran to bedroom and held knife up to his throat. Sgt Lubeck deployed Taser as subject was moving towards bathroom and tried to control subject who was still resisting. Officers were able to get both hands secure and located the knife, which was on floor. Subject was treated by paramedics and was uncooperative.

Officers on Crew D worked well with each other, responded professionally, and remained calm in an intense situation. We are very thankful this did not end up differently and no one was injured. Letters of commendation will be presented to all officers involved in this situation.

Subject was held on charges of:

- Domestic DC
- Resisting/Obstructing
- Abuse to Elderly
- Reckless Endangering Safety
- False Imprisonment
- Failure to Comply with Officer Attempt to take into Custody.

